

Over 1.5 million Purple Heart medals have been awarded to members of the Armed Forces fighting in defense of freedom and democracy. Today, more than 500,000 recipients of the Purple Heart are still living.

By this resolution, Congress congratulates the Military Order of the Purple Heart on its 75th anniversary as a national organization whose goals are to preserve and sustain the honor of the Armed Forces. It strongly commends all recipients of the Purple Heart for their courage and sacrifice. Americans should take time to learn about the Purple Heart and the honor, courage, and bravery it symbolizes.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 49, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The title was amended so as to read: "Concurrent resolution recognizing the 75th anniversary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and commending recipients of the Purple Heart for their courage and sacrifice on behalf of the United States."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING AND EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO THE 1ST BATTALION OF THE 133RD INFANTRY OF THE IOWA NATIONAL GUARD

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 568) honoring and expressing gratitude to the 1st Battalion of the 133rd Infantry ("Ironman Battalion") of the Iowa National Guard.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 568

Whereas 476 members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry of the Iowa National Guard were mobilized for active duty in September and October of 2005;

Whereas 80 members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry have been providing essential support to the Battalion from Iowa National Guard installations in Waterloo, Iowa, and Dubuque, Iowa, and at least 490 members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry were deployed to Iraq in April and May of 2006;

Whereas the members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry have been serving bravely and honorably since those dates in the al-Anbar Province of Iraq, one of the most dangerous parts of the country;

Whereas the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry deployed as part of the 1st Brigade Combat Team of the 34th Infantry Division, which has completed the longest continuous de-

ployment of any Army National Guard unit during Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry is the longest-serving Iowa Army National Guard unit since World War II;

Whereas the CBS program "60 Minutes" devoted an entire hour to telling the story of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry on May 27, 2007;

Whereas the members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry have completed over 500 missions providing security for convoys operating in the al-Anbar Province;

Whereas the members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry have logged over 4 million mission miles, and have delivered over one-third of the fuel needed to sustain coalition forces in Iraq;

Whereas the members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry have detained over 60 insurgents;

Whereas the members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry were scheduled to return home in April 2007, but had their tours of duty extended until July 2007;

Whereas the members of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry left behind civilian jobs, friends, and families in order to serve the United States;

Whereas 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry members Sergeant 1st Class Scott E. Nisely and Sergeant Kampha B. Sourivong gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country when they were tragically killed during combat operations near Al Asad, Iraq, on September 30, 2006; and

Whereas the United States will be forever indebted to the soldiers and families of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry for their sacrifices and their contributions to the United States mission in Iraq: Now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives honors and expresses gratitude for the service and sacrifices of the members and families of the 1st Battalion of the 133rd Infantry of the Iowa National Guard upon their return home from their deployment in Iraq.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 568, introduced by my colleague from Iowa, Mr. BRALEY, which recognizes the bravery and the tremendous self-sacrifice of the 1st Battalion of the 133rd Infantry of the Iowa National Guard.

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Beginning in September of 2005, this "Ironman Battalion" was mobilized for active duty, and by April 2006, 490 members were deployed to al-Anbar Province to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. Since deploying as part of

the 1st Brigade Combat Team of the 34th Infantry Division, this Iowa battalion has completed the longest continuous deployment of any Army National Guard unit during the Iraqi war, and is the longest deployed Iowa Guard unit since the Second World War.

They have completed over 500 missions and logged over 4 million mission miles, delivering over one-third of the fuel needed to sustain coalition forces in Iraq.

While performing operations in Anbar, this battalion dutifully detained over 60 insurgents, and they remained steadfast and strong when their tour was extended at a time when this country needed their leadership.

On September 30, 2006, Sergeant First Class Scott E. Nisely and Sergeant Kampha B. Sourivong paid the ultimate sacrifice and courageously laid down their lives for this Nation. It is a solemn and sad occasion when this country's sons and daughters give so much, and often words are insufficient to describe the humble gratitude and dignified thanks that we owe these brave soldiers and their families. In times of war, Madam Speaker, it is important that this Nation, this House, halt for a brief moment and speak with actions what words cannot articulate.

I am honored to rise today on the floor of this House to express the thanks of a grateful Nation to the members and the families of the 1st Battalion of the 133rd Infantry of the Iowa National Guard upon their return home from their deployment in Iraq.

The story of Iowa's 1st Battalion of the 133rd Infantry is even more remarkable because their extended tour of duty in Iraq was a crucial component of the surge policy. This battalion made a great sacrifice that has impacted their family lives and their jobs. However, their unfaltering willingness to serve an extended tour allowed the National Guard to reset the force and begin the process of serving in more predictable deployment cycles. They not only sacrificed for our freedom, but for the betterment of their fellow guardsmen across the Nation.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the men and women of the Iowa National Guard, including MG Ron Dardis, Iowa's Adjutant General. Today this House joins the Iowa delegation in bringing this deserving recognition of their National Guard. We want to commend Mr. BRALEY for his leadership in support of the National Guard.

Today's resolution again highlights the important role that the National Guard continues to fulfill through wartime requirements. Indeed, the National Guard is now an operational force that can simultaneously provide wartime capabilities while protecting the homeland. And to achieve this mission, it has taken the participation and support of every State and territory National Guard. All of us are very proud of our National Guard units, and I am very proud of the contributions of

the Guam National Guard to missions abroad and in the homeland. Today we recognize a National Guard battalion who has sacrificed above and beyond the normal call of duty and expectations placed upon them.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution and commend the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BRALEY) for introducing it. This specific resolution honors and expresses gratitude for the service in Iraq of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry, known as the "Ironman Battalion" of the Iowa Army National Guard. Their service has been long and honorable.

The soldiers of this battalion mobilized in the fall of 2005, deployed to Iraq in the spring of 2006, were due to come home in April of this year, but had their tour extended until July of 2007.

For 15 months, their "boots on the ground" made a difference in the al-Anbar Province, one of the most dangerous areas in Iraq. They completed more than 500 convoy security missions, logged over 4 million mission miles, and delivered over one-third of the fuel needed to sustain coalition forces in Iraq.

The battalion came home to Iowa on July 25 to welcoming and thankful families and communities, completing a 22-month mobilization. That period of honorable service made the battalion the longest serving Iowa Army National Guard unit since World War II.

While serving in Iraq, two members of the battalion were killed in action in September of 2006: Sergeant First Class Scott Nisely and Sergeant Kampha B. Sourivong.

For their ultimate sacrifice and for the service and sacrifice of the members and families of the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry, the Nation owes a debt of gratitude. This resolution helps to remind us of that debt. Today, Congress, by this resolution, honors and thanks the men and women of this unit and their families for their dedication and selfless service to the people of America.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BOSWELL).

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me this time to speak on this very important occasion.

As an original cosponsor of this resolution, I join with my good friend and colleague, and many others, Representative BRALEY of Iowa, as we celebrate the great service this unit has given.

They are brave people. You have heard the time they served. They returned home with the distinction of being the longest serving Iowa National Guard unit since World War II. I

want to personally thank them for their service to our country. The brave men and women who make up the unit are something that we are very proud of, and I feel some relation to them, as others do in the Congress, because of my own past service in another war. So I appreciate it very much.

And I am also aware of the sacrifices made by the families. And I think you should know that as the troops were coming up the highway, as they passed under bridges, there were VFW and American Legion and other services and families who were on the bridges with flags walking them home, making them know how much they were appreciated and how much they were missed. Those families play a very important role, which we should all appreciate, in ensuring freedom and liberty.

So I want to thank the mothers and fathers and the spouses and the sons and daughters who had and have loved ones serving around the world.

I appreciate the opportunity to speak here tonight, and hope that we can raise up and give recognition and appreciation to all of our men and women who serve our country and do it with distinction. We should be very proud. I am, and I know all of us are.

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution honoring the 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry of the Iowa National Guard. This unit returned last week from a deployment lasting nearly 23 consecutive months in Iraq, which is the longest continuous deployment of any Army National Guard Unit during Operation Iraqi Freedom. This distinction carries on the 1st Battalion's proud historical legacy: Since the Second World War the unit served more consecutive days in the European theatre than any other unit.

In Operation Iraqi Freedom, the 1st Battalion carried out a critical mission in one of the most dangerous areas of Iraq. The unit drove over 4 million miles providing security for convoys supplying thousands of U.S. troops. I want to commend the soldiers of the 1st Battalion for their successful completion of over 500 missions.

These soldiers and their families have made tremendous sacrifices to further the U.S. mission in Iraq and for that we owe them a debt of gratitude. Tragically, this sacrifice included more than 25 wounded and the deaths of two members of the unit who made the ultimate sacrifice. SGT 1st Class Scott Nisely and SGT Kampha Sourivong were killed in combat operations on September 30, 2006. Our Nation will forever be grateful to these heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedoms.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important recognition of one of our Nation's finest National Guard Units.

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support the passage of H. Res. 568, a bill honoring and expressing gratitude to the members and families of the 1st Battalion of the 133rd Infantry of the Iowa National Guard. My introduction of this bill last week coincided with the long-awaited homecoming of the 1-133rd, known as the "Ironman Battalion," after a long and extended deployment in Iraq. I am glad that the House has moved swiftly to consider this important

resolution, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of it today in order to pay tribute to this incredible group of Iowans.

Last Wednesday was truly a momentous day in Iowa as the members of the 1-133rd were reunited with their friends, family, and loved ones at a homecoming ceremony in Waterloo after more than a year of service in Iraq. The members and families of the 1-133rd have been in Iowans' thoughts and prayers, and this day of reunion and celebration had been eagerly awaited, since the Battalion left for Iraq last spring.

Iowans' admiration and love for the members of the 1-133rd was palpable in Waterloo as an overflow crowd of an estimated 8,000 people packed Riverfront Stadium to welcome the hundreds of men and women of the Battalion home. As the Battalion drove the final miles from Ft. McCoy in Wisconsin, Iowans lined the road to wave at the 1-133rd and waved American flags from overpasses. Sadly, the day was also made bittersweet by the absence of 1-133rd members SGT 1st Class Scott Nisely and SGT Kampha Sourivong, who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country when they were tragically killed during combat operations in Iraq on September 30, 2006.

Many of my colleagues here may already be familiar with the men and women of the 1-133rd if they saw the Memorial Day special edition of "60 Minutes" that was dedicated to telling the story of the Battalion. While it is impossible for those who have not served in Iraq to fully understand the experiences of the 1-133rd there, or to comprehend the sacrifices that they and their families have made on behalf of our country, this program gave Americans a small glimpse of the challenges the members of the 1-133rd and their families faced throughout their long deployment, as well as into their incredible perseverance.

Iowans who watched the "60 Minutes" special featuring the 1-133rd saw the story of their friends, neighbors, and loved ones who chose to serve and sacrifice when their country called upon them. We saw the daily threats of roadside bombs, insurgents, and snipers faced by the members of the 1-133rd in Iraq as they helped deliver fuel to coalition forces. We saw families adjusting back home, and banding together to help one another. We saw the hardship and heartache that was experienced by the members and their families when they received the news that their tour of duty was to be extended from April until this summer. We saw children born while fathers were overseas, and we saw the lives of our fellow Iowans cut tragically short. For me, the program reinforced what I had already learned about the members of the 1-133rd from my frequent communications with their commanding officer, LTC Ben Corell: that they are men and women of great strength and character who selflessly and bravely put their lives on the line every day for their country in Iraq.

Throughout their long tour of duty in the al-Anbar province of Iraq, one of the most dangerous parts of the country, the 1-133rd detained over 60 insurgents. They completed over 500 missions providing security for convoys, and logged in over 4 million mission miles. In addition, they have delivered over one-third of the fuel needed to sustain coalition forces in Iraq. Their crucial service, and their extended deployment, are also reflective

of the critical and increasing role of the National Guard in our defense missions overseas. Their contributions to the U.S. mission in Iraq are indeed impressive and commendable, which is why I believe that the entire country should honor and thank the men and women of the 1-133rd for their service and their sacrifices there through the passage of this resolution.

The 1st Battalion of the 133rd Infantry of the Iowa National Guard is notable for other reasons as well. They are the longest-serving Iowa military unit since World War II. They are also part of the Army National Guard unit which has served the longest continuous deployment of any Army National Guard unit in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The men and women of the 1-133rd have made me and so many other Iowans and Americans proud through their work and their sacrifices in Iraq, and I hope that it also gives them and their families pride to reflect upon their accomplishments. I feel incredibly honored and privileged to represent them in the U.S. Congress, and I am so pleased today that the entire House of Representatives will commend and thank them for their service through the passage of H. Res. 568.

I am proud to have introduced this bill with the support of 70 bipartisan original co-sponsors, including the entire Iowa Congressional Delegation. The strong support this resolution has on both sides of the aisle is reflective of the pride and gratitude that Americans feel towards our National Guard troops, and all of our men and women serving in uniform.

I would like to thank Armed Services Committee Chairman IKE SKELTON and his staff, and Majority Leader HOYER and his staff, for helping to facilitate the swift consideration of this bill by the full House. The United States will be forever indebted to the members and families of the 1-133rd for their service and their sacrifices in Iraq, and I hope that this resolution comes to serve as a genuine expression of thanks from a grateful state and a grateful nation.

Again, I would like to commend and thank this incredible Battalion for their work, and I urge my colleagues to support the passage of H. Res. 568 today to honor and express gratitude to the men and women of the 1st Battalion of the 133rd Infantry of the Iowa National Guard.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, but I do thank Mr. JONES for managing the resolutions this evening, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 568.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

INTEGRATED DEEPWATER PROGRAM REFORM ACT

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (H.R. 2722) to restructure the Coast Guard Integrated Deepwater Program, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2722

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Integrated Deepwater Program Reform Act".

SEC. 2. IMPLEMENTATION OF COAST GUARD INTEGRATED DEEPWATER ACQUISITION PROGRAM.

(a) USE OF PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITY AS A LEAD SYSTEMS INTEGRATOR.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the Secretary may not use a private sector entity as a lead systems integrator for procurements under, or in support of, the Deepwater Program beginning on the earlier of October 1, 2011, or the date on which the Secretary certifies in writing to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate that the Coast Guard has available and can retain sufficient contracting personnel and expertise within the Coast Guard, through an arrangement with other Federal agencies, or through contracts or other arrangements with private sector entities, to perform the functions and responsibilities of the lead system integrator in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

(2) COMPLETION OF EXISTING DELIVERY ORDERS AND TASK ORDERS.—The Secretary may use a private sector entity as a lead systems integrator to complete any delivery order or task order under the Deepwater Program that was issued to the lead systems integrator on or before the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) ASSISTANCE OF OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—In any case in which the Secretary is the systems integrator under the Deepwater Program, the Secretary may obtain any type of assistance the Secretary considers appropriate, with any systems integration functions, from any Federal agency with experience in systems integration involving maritime vessels and aircraft.

(4) ASSISTANCE OF PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITIES.—In any case in which the Secretary is the systems integrator under the Deepwater Program, the Secretary may, subject to the availability of appropriations, obtain by grant, contract, or co-operative agreement any type of assistance the Secretary considers appropriate, with any systems integration functions, from any private sector entity with experience in systems integration involving maritime vessels and aircraft.

(b) COMPETITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the Secretary shall use full and open competition for each class of asset acquisitions under the Deepwater Program for which an outside contractor is used, if the asset is procured directly by the Coast Guard or by the Integrated Coast Guard System acting under a contract with the Coast Guard.

(2) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary may use a procurement method that is less than full and open competition to procure an asset under the Deepwater Program, if—

(A) the Secretary determines that such method is in the best interests of the Federal Government; and

(B) by not later than 30 days before the date of the award of a contract for the procurement, the Secretary submits to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report explaining why such procurement is in the best interests of the Federal Government.

(3) LIMITATION ON APPLICATION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a contract, subcontract, or

task order that was issued before the date of enactment of this Act, if there is no change in the quantity of assets or the specific type of assets procured.

(c) REQUIRED CONTRACT TERMS.—The Secretary shall include in each contract, subcontract, and task order issued under the Deepwater Program after the date of the enactment of this Act the following provisions, as applicable:

(1) TECHNICAL REVIEWS.—A requirement that the Secretary shall conduct a technical review of all proposed designs, design changes, and engineering changes, and a requirement that the contractor must specifically address all engineering concerns identified in the technical reviews, before any funds may be obligated.

(2) RESPONSIBILITY FOR TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS.—A requirement that the Secretary shall maintain the authority to establish, approve, and maintain technical requirements.

(3) COST ESTIMATE OF MAJOR CHANGES.—A requirement that an independent cost estimate must be prepared and approved by the Secretary before the execution of any change order costing more than 5 percent of the unit cost approved in the Deepwater Program baseline in effect as of May 2007.

(4) PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT.—A requirement that any measurement of contractor and subcontractor performance must be based on the status of all work performed, including the extent to which the work performed met all cost, schedule, and mission performance requirements outlined in the Deepwater Program contract.

(5) EARLY OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT.—For the acquisition of any cutter class for which an Early Operational Assessment has not been developed—

(A) a requirement that the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall cause an Early Operational Assessment to be conducted by the Department of the Navy after the development of the preliminary design of the cutter and before the conduct of the critical design review of the cutter; and

(B) a requirement that the Coast Guard shall develop a plan to address the findings presented in the Early Operational Assessment.

(6) TRANSIENT ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE EMANATION.—For the acquisition or upgrade of air, surface, or shore assets for which compliance with transient electromagnetic pulse emanation (TEMPEST) is a requirement, a provision specifying that the standard for determining such compliance shall be the air, surface, or shore asset standard then used by the Department of the Navy.

(7) OFFSHORE PATROL CUTTER UNDERWAY REQUIREMENT.—For any contract issued to acquire an Offshore Patrol Cutter, provisions specifying the service life, fatigue life, days underway in general Atlantic and North Pacific Sea conditions, maximum range, and maximum speed the cutter shall be built to achieve.

(8) INSPECTOR GENERAL ACCESS.—A requirement that the Department of Homeland Security's Office of the Inspector General shall have access to all records maintained by all contractors working on the Deepwater Program, and shall have the right to privately interview any contractor personnel.

(d) LIFE CYCLE COST ESTIMATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop an authoritative life cycle cost estimate for the Deepwater Program.

(2) CONTENTS.—The life cycle cost estimate shall include asset acquisition and logistics support decisions and planned operational tempo and locations as of the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) SUBMITTAL.—The Secretary shall—

(A) submit the life cycle cost estimate to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate within 4 months after the date of enactment of this Act; and